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No. M-218

# STUDIES OF MIGRATION AND SETTLEMENT

*Memorandum Series*

Subject: *Developments in Palestine, January—February, 1945*

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*Developments in Palest.  
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DEVELOPMENTS IN PALESTINE, JANUARY-FEBRUARY, 1945

The attached notes have been selected in their majority from Palcor News Agency (London) cables, 50 Union Square, New York City. Exceptions are items C2, D3, G2, G3, H, J, and K which were excerpted from Inside Palestine, published by the Zionist Organization of America (ZOA), 1720 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington, D. C.

These items, which have not been checked with other sources, have been arranged according to the following subject headings: Refugees, Immigration Problems, Settlements, Housing, Irrigation Projects, Financial, Industry and Trade, Political Aspects, Population, and Postwar Projects.

The selection of the items was made by the Staff of "M" Project.

Minor editorial revisions were made to conform to our style.

Attention is called to M-46, M-54, M-75, M-145, M-176 and M-195 in our Series.

*Henry Field*

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## A. REFUGEES

### 1. 625 ROMANIAN JEWS ARRIVE IN PALESTINE AFTER DETENTION IN BULGARIA

Jerusalem, January 15.- Jewish Palestine welcomed yesterday 625 Jewish refugees who left Romania for Palestine in the middle of November but had been detained, first by Soviet authorities in Bulgaria, and then by Turkish authorities in Ankara. The group, which arrived from Turkey by train and was immediately transferred to the clearance camp at Athlit, included 195 men, 227 women, 102 boys over four years of age, and four infants. Most of the children are full or part orphans.

### 2. YEMENITE REFUGEES ARRIVE IN PALESTINE

Jerusalem, January 24.- 199 Yemenite refugees, who have been residing in Aden, for a number of years, waiting for official permission to enter Palestine, have recently obtained visas enabling their entrance. Sixty-five orphans were included in the group which arrived here Tuesday.

### 3. 122 YEMENITE REFUGEES ARRIVE IN PALESTINE

Jerusalem, February 5.- 122 Jewish refugees from Yemen arrived here Sunday. They had sought refuge in Aden for the past few years after local persecution had driven them from their homes in Yemen.



B. IMMIGRATION PROBLEMS

1. BULGARIA PERMITS 625 ROMANIAN JEWS TO PROCEED TO  
PALESTINE

Jerusalem, January 10.- Moshe Shertok, Chief of the Political Department of the Jewish Agency, announced today that 625 Romanian Jewish immigrants who left Bucharest for Palestine in the middle of November and had been halted for several weeks in Bulgaria, have been released by the Bulgarian authorities and permitted to proceed to Palestine where they are expected to arrive tomorrow. Hitherto 4,000 Jews entered Palestine under the last quota of 10,000 permitted within the limits of the White Paper.

2. JEWISH AGENCY EMIGRATION EXPERTS BARRED BY BULGARIA,  
ROMANIA

Shertok Sees Possibilities for Emigration From Poland

Tel Aviv, January 16.- Jewish Agency emissaries seeking to enter Romania and Bulgaria for the purpose of organizing Jewish emigration for Palestine are "encountering difficulties," Moshe Shertok revealed at a press conference here. On the other hand, he said, there appears to exist a possibility for emigration from Poland to Palestine.

### 3. TRANSPORT PROBLEM HANDICAPS EMIGRATION FROM FRANCE

According to Mr. Shertok arrangements for the transfer of French Jewish orphans to Palestine have been seriously handicapped by transport difficulties, similar to those prevailing with regard to the transfer of refugees from Switzerland. The first direct communication The Jewish Agency received from Paris was a telegram from M. Jarblum, Labor Zionist leader in charge of emigration arrangements.

Shertok revealed also that Dr. Arie Nahon, pre-War head of the Zionist Federation in Milan, was leaving for Italy today to handle emigration of Jews in the liberated areas seeking admission to Palestine.

### 4. 248,000 JEWS IN ROMANIA WANT TO BE TRANSFERRED TO PALESTINE

50,000 Have Already Registered, Dobkin Tells Histadruth.  
Sets Europe's Potential Palestine Emigrés at 1,000,000

Tel Aviv, February 1.- Setting at between 1,000,000 and 1,225,000 the number of Jews in Europe that will choose Palestine as the scene of their post-War future, Eliahu Dobkin, Deputy member of the Jewish Agency Executive in charge of immigration, declared here yesterday, that in Romania alone 50,000 Jews have registered for immigration to Palestine, "and tens of thousands of others are clamoring for registration." An emissary from Romania, just arrived in Palestine,



reports that at least 80 per cent of the 310,000 Jews remaining in Romania, are prepared to go to Palestine if and when their exit, transit and admission are arranged, Dobkin yesterday told the sixth conference of the Histadruth, Jewish Palestine Federation of Labor.

The Jewish remnants in Transylvania will require immediate emigration, and the majority of Bulgarian Jewry has unequivocally expressed its demand for Palestine immigration as "the only solution to its problem, despite obstruction by Jewish Communists." Reports coming in from all the liberated areas, and, clandestinely, from occupied Europe reveal that "this clamor is everywhere," Dobkin said.

"An American emissary who has returned from France declared that a large part of the 180,000 Jews in France want to emigrate to Palestine. These reports also emanate from Belgium, Greece, Yugoslavia, Italy and Poland."

#### Zionism Stirring Among Russian Jews

Striking was Dobkin's statement that "the desire for settling in Palestine is beginning to develop also among the Russo-Jewish Community with whom contact has been virtually non-existent for the past two decades."

## 5. AGENCY DEMANDS LARGE PALESTINE IMMIGRATION IN 1945

### Only 975 Jews Entered Country in January

Jerusalem, February 6.- The Jewish Agency is determined to force open the doors of Palestine for a large-scale Jewish immigration in 1945, Moshe Shertok, Chief of the Political Department of the Jewish Agency, declared at a press conference here.

Eliahu Dobkin, deputy member of the Jewish Agency Executive in charge of immigration, revealed that only 975 Jewish immigrants entered Palestine in the month of January because the authorities deducted from the January quota the number of immigrants who entered the country in December above the Government-set monthly quota of 1500.

Mr. Shertok revealed that the Government has as yet submitted no reply to the Jewish Agency's request for a larger monthly rate. Exit difficulties for Jews in Romania and Bulgaria seeking to leave for Palestine "continue acutely," he said.

## 6. EMIGRATION FROM POLAND PERMITTED

Jerusalem, February 11.- Replying to questions at their first press conference in Jerusalem, the representatives here of Polpress, official news agency of the Provisional Government in Poland, declared that as regards Jewish emigration from Poland to Palestine, the Lublin Government would not adopt a



policy of compulsory evacuation toward any minority groups, but it was to be assumed that Jews wishing to proceed to Palestine could do so.

7. ALARMING REPORTS FROM EUROPE MAKE PALESTINE IMMIGRATION IMPERATIVE

Tel Aviv, February 16. - Moshe Shertok, Chief of the Political Department of the Jewish Agency, at a press conference here yesterday revealed that the Jewish Agency's request for an increase, for the time being, of the monthly quota of 1,500 certificates, has been refused by the authorities, with the Government merely agreeing to permit a 2,000 monthly maximum, in the event the 1,500 quota is not filled in any preceding month.

Discussing emigration from Romania, he said that only one thousand are expected to leave Romania in the near future because this represented the remainder of the certificates allocated for that country from the last 10,300 certificates under the White Paper. Shertok pointed that at the moment emigration from Romania was at a standstill owing to a delay in the arrival of British Consuls in the Balkans which makes it impossible to obtain visas in Romania. However, the one thousand will get their visas in Turkey according to special instructions just issued.

Bulgaria Test Case

The Palestine Government approved certificates for 180 Chalutzin (pioneers) from Bulgaria, and this would be a test whether Bulgaria, under the pressure of local Jewish Communists, had closed its exits for Jews seeking to emigrate to Palestine.

No news has yet arrived from Italy, he said, concerning the expected departure of 900 immigrants. A group of two hundred children and fifty adults are expected to leave France soon for Palestine, but there has been no clarification regarding the travel possibilities for immigrants from Switzerland. A party of 300 Yemenite Jews is enroute from Aden to Palestine.

Mr. Shertok further revealed that the Jewish Agency had requested the Government to grant 1,670 additional certificates for this number of Jews transferred from German internment to Switzerland, on the ground that in Switzerland they have been given only temporary shelter and that they should for once be permitted to settle in permanent homes.

The Jewish Agency has at its disposal only 1,500 permits for the tens of thousands of French Jews seeking Palestine immigration, and only one thousand certificates for the 26,000 Jewish refugees in Switzerland.



### C. SETTLEMENTS

#### 1. AGUDATH ISRAEL COLLECTIVE SETTLEMENT ESTABLISHED

Jerusalem, January 15.- The first collective settlement of the ultra-Orthodox Agudath Israel organization has been set up on land provided by the Keren Kayemeth, Jewish National Fund, near Gedera. The buildings of the settlement, called Hofetz Hayim, are being erected under the supervision of the Agricultural Department of the Jewish Agency for Palestine and are financed by the Keren Hayesod, Palestine Foundation Fund.

#### 2. SIXTY NEW SETTLEMENTS SINCE OUTBREAK OF WAR

Jerusalem, January 16.- Sixty new Jewish settlements, distributed from the frontier of Syria to the frontier of Egypt, have been established in Palestine since the outbreak of the war in 1939, it was reported at a reception tendered to Dr. Chaim Weizmann by representatives of group settlements here.

Reporting that the output of Jewish agriculture had been doubled, the Jewish Agency representatives revealed that large-scale plans are now being mapped for agricultural expansion aimed at a five-fold increase of the Jewish community. The demand was also made at the meeting that the German rural colonies in Palestine, which, before the war were nests of Nazism, be handed over for Jewish agriculture.

Eleven new Keren Hayesod (Palestine Foundation Fund) labor settlements are now being started, most of them in northern Palestine. They include four villages for Palestine Jewish war veterans.

### 3. SETTLEMENT IN WEIZMANN'S NAME

Ramat Gan, February 19.- A new settlement for Jewish ex-servicemen will be established in the name of Dr. Chaim Weizmann, by the members of the Palestine Manufacturers Association. The sum of £35,000 (\$140,000) was immediately raised for the purpose at a meeting here at which the decision was taken.

### 4. SCHOOL FOR JEWISH MUKHTARS

Jerusalem, February.- For the past six months, a unique school, at which Jewish "Mukhtars" (village headmen responsible to the Government) have been trained, has been functioning under the auspices of the Jewish Agency's Political Department (maintained by Keren Hayesod funds) in the vicinity of Jerusalem.

The school, situated near Motza to the west of the capital, is attended by representatives of various Keren Hayesod and other villagers, and they are taught Arabic and various other subjects on Jewish-Arab relations. Each course takes two months. Two groups have already completed their studies and the third is finishing in February.



About 100 new Jewish settlements have been established in the past eight years, for the most part near Arab villages, and a knowledge of the language, customs and ways of the Arab neighbors will contribute greatly toward maintaining ties of friendship.

#### D. HOUSING

##### 1. TEL AVIV MUNICIPALITY "RECRUITING" ROOMS FOR NEWCOMERS

Tel Aviv, January 3.- In a dramatic move to counteract the housing shortage and obtain living quarters for newcomers to Jewish Palestine, the Tel Aviv Municipal Council launched a "recruiting campaign for rooms" or cash donations to rent or build homes. A proposal by Jewish Palestine's Labor Party, Mapai, urging the requisitioning of rooms from residents refusing to share with newcomers space they can spare, was defeated.

##### 2. IMMIGRANTS "OCCUPY" VACANT SHANTIES IN PALESTINE HOUSING SHORTAGE

##### Appeal to Government for Release of Building Materials

Jerusalem, January 15.- The Palestine Government is being urged to release available materials to enable the launching of a building program to provide housing for refugees arriving in Palestine. The housing shortage, due to the wartime curb on

building, has led in recent days to what has become known as "the invasion," namely the entry of newcomers into temporarily unoccupied buildings, houses and shanties. Groups of immigrants have occupied houses that way in Tel Aviv, Bnai Brak, Nathanya and Rishon Le'Zion. The housing shortage is especially severe in large towns and their vicinities.

Some regard the Government's refusal to release available building materials as another manifestation of a policy aiming at the deferment of a final decision on the White Paper policy, by allegedly placing obstacles in the way of the immigrants still to be admitted into Palestine under its provisions.

3. JEWISH AGENCY TO SPEND \$16,000,000 FOR REHABILITATION  
THIS YEAR

Jerusalem, January 16.- The sum of \$16,000,000 will be spent by the Jewish Agency for Palestine for rehabilitation and construction in the current fiscal year. Of this amount, \$2,400,000 will go toward housing the refugees and encouraging private building activities, Eliezer Kaplan, Treasurer of the Agency, announced here.

4. \$1,600,000 TEL AVIV HOUSING SCHEME TO BE LAUNCHED

Tel Aviv, January 23.- To alleviate the housing shortage and provide homes for newcomers, the Tel Aviv Municipal Council announced the launching of construction projects costing £400,000 (\$1,600,000). The cost does not include the price of land.



5. 2,200 NEW DWELLINGS TO BE BUILT SHORTLY BY HISTADRUTH

Tel Aviv, January 21.- A total of 2,200 new dwellings, to accommodate refugees recently arrived in Palestine, will shortly be erected by Shikhun, Housing Corporation of the Histadruth, Jewish Palestine's Federation of Labor, with the coopération of the Jewish Agency. One thousand of these houses will be constructed in the vicinity of Tel Aviv, Haifa and Jerusalem. In addition, the Jewish Agency for Palestine is constructing hundreds of houses for new immigrants around numerous towns and villages. These figures were announced by Heshel Frumkin, Histadruth statistician, who added that the survey showed that 4,000 dwellings were necessary for immigrants recently arrived and for those expected in the next few weeks.

6. PALESTINE GOVERNMENT ALLOCATES MATERIALS FOR 27,000 ROOMS

Jerusalem, February 6.- Acting on the repeated demands of Jewish Palestine for the release of building materials to relieve the housing shortage, the Controller of Heavy Industries, Christopher Wilson Brown, announced in an address before the War Economic Advisory Council that materials and shipping space have already been allocated by the Government for the building of 27,000 rooms. Building will begin in May and will comprise family dwellings of one, two, and three rooms with all conveniences, situated within the boundaries of four towns.

## E. IRRIGATION PROJECTS

### 1. NEW SOIL CONSERVATION PROJECT IN PALESTINE SUCCESSFUL

Jerusalem, January 8.- The first experiment in a new soil conservation program in Jewish Palestine was launched successfully with the completion of a dam-reservoir with a capacity for collecting 220,000 cubic meters of rainwater from the hills. The project was constructed at Kvutzath Revivim, situated in the Negeb, southern Palestine.

The rainwater, which hitherto flowed seaward, carrying with it precious topsoil, will now irrigate grain and fodder fields and vegetable patches of the Revivim settlement. The reservoir represents the first successful experiment of its kind in Palestine. More than £10,000 (\$40,000) were allocated for it by the Jewish Agency and the Keren Kayemeth, Jewish National Fund, and the work was carried out by Solel Boneh, Construction Cooperative of the Histadruth, Jewish Palestine's Federation of Labor. Some 10,000 cubic meters of rainwater flow into the reservoir hourly. It is planned to build another reservoir, with a cement foundation, for storing water for use in summer.

### 2. JEWISH YOUTHS SURVEY NEGEB SOIL INTROD BY JEWS FOR GENERATIONS

Tel Aviv, January 26.- The so-called arid Negeb can be turned into a flowering region, in the opinion of fourteen



members of the Working Youth Organization of the Histadruth, Jewish Palestine's Federation of Labor, who have just completed a tour on camel-back of the Negeb, which took them as far as the Gulf of Akaba, where Jews have not trod for generations.

#### F. FINANCIAL

##### 1. \$4,000,000 SPENT BY HISTADRUTH SICK FUND IN 1944

Tel Aviv, January 8.- In the year 1944, Kupat Cholim, Sick Fund of the Histadruth, Jewish Federation of Labor, spent £1,000,000 (\$4,000,000), to which members contributed £955,000 (\$3,820,000), it was stated by the directors of the Fund at a press conference here. Kupat Cholim does not receive Government subsidies or municipal grants.

##### 2. EACH DUNAM OF LAND BRINGS US NEARER OUR GOAL, SAYS DR. WEIZMANN

Tel Aviv, January 4.- In a message to the Keren Kayemeth, Jewish National Fund, exhibition which opened here January 3, Dr. Chaim Weizmann, President of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, declared that "each tract of land which the Keren Kayemeth acquires brings us closer to the fulfilment of our aspirations and furthers the struggle for our future in this land."

Dr. Abraham Granovsky, director of the Jewish National Fund, surveyed the Keren Kayemeth's work, stating that out of a total of 257 Jewish agricultural settlements in Palestine, 185 are on Jewish National Fund land. The annual Keren Kayemeth

income has risen to £1,750,000 (\$7,000,000), and the current year's income is estimated at £2,500,000. The total world income of the Keren Kayemeth to date is £10,000,000. Acquisitions of land since 1904 total 750,000 dunams.

3. J.N.F. RECEIPTS IN THREE MONTHS TOTAL OVER ONE MILLION DOLLARS

Jerusalem, January 17.- The world receipts of the Keren Kayemeth (Jewish National Fund) for the first quarter of the current fiscal year, covering October-December 1944, totalled £449,484, representing an increase of 14 per cent compared with receipts for the same period a year before. America leads with £257,014 or 57 per cent; Palestine is second place with £67,953, or 15 per cent.

4. GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTES ONLY \$120,000 FOR JEWISH PALESTINE'S \$6,400,000 ANNUAL HEALTH BUDGET

Jerusalem, February 20.- The Palestine Government contributes a total of only £30,000 toward Jewish Palestine's medical aid budget of £1,600,000, the Vaad Leumi, Jewish Palestine's National Council, revealed today.

The Vaad Leumi, in the light of these facts, passed a unanimous resolution, at a plenary session held here yesterday, demanding that the Government treat as public institutions those hospitals and health institutions which are administered by Jewish public bodies. The Vaad Leumi proposes that the



Government's Department of Health determine the hospital requirements of the Jewish population in every district on a proportional basis outlined in a memorandum submitted to the Government at an earlier date.

The figures mentioned above refer to 1944. Kupath Cholim, the Sick Benefit Society of the Histadruth, with a membership of 225,000, contributed £1,000,000 toward the total, with the remainder coming from the Vaad Leumi, Local Councils, and Hadassah which maintains a tuberculosis hospital at Safad as well as the Hebrew University Hospital on Mount Scopus and other health services. The Government's share of this expenditure was a grant-in-aid of £22,000 to the Tel Aviv Municipal Hospital, and £8,000 to the Vaad Leumi school hygiene program and services for infant welfare and tubercular care. The Jewish hospitals have more than 1,500 beds, of which 1,129 are in Jewish public institutions whose yearly maintenance cost exceeded £400,000, the burden of which evolved entirely on the Jews.

Education Budget \$1,360,000

The same session of the Vaad Leumi adopted a budget of £340,000 for education, to which the Jewish Agency was urged to contribute £20,000, instead of £75,000 which the Agency had contributed last year. The Vaad Leumi demanded a Government grant of £142,000 of which £22,000 would go for a special allocation for meeting teachers' salaries. The resolution instructed the

Executive Committee of the Vaad Leumi to continue its efforts to secure a fundamental change in the Government's financial policy toward the Jewish educational system.

#### 5. TEL AVIV'S BUDGET EXCEEDS SIX MILLION DOLLARS

Tel Aviv, February 19.- A record budget of £1,588,000 in expenditures has been presented for consideration by the Tel Aviv Municipality for the year 1945-1946, compared with the current year's budget of £1,371,000, and the £540,000 budget adopted by the Council in 1940. The estimated income will be £1,600,000 for the 1945-1946 period. The proposed budget would include £379,000 (\$1,516,000) or 23 per cent, for education; £411,000 or 26 per cent for health services, and £206,000 or 13 per cent for social service.

#### G. INDUSTRY AND TRADE

##### 1. 20,000 TONS OF PHOSPHATE

Tel Aviv, January.- The production of superphosphate now amounts to 20,000 tons in Palestine, of which part is sent to neighboring countries, excluding Egypt, according to Mr. I. Zilinsky writing in Taasia, industrial publication. The same rate of demand is expected to be maintained after the war and may even increase with the expansion of agriculture.

Sulphuric acid is now being made to the extent of 10,800 tons annually. Most of this output is used in the manufacture



of superphosphate fertilizer. Sulphur aluminum, which is used as a filtering substance for drinking water, totals 2,500 tons annually, with some 2,000 tons sent to Egypt. Bichromate of potassium totals 250 tons mostly sent to Egypt, while fifty tons of bichloride of sulphur goes for the ice and canning industries.

Bisulphate of nitrate is also made in Palestine as are various chemical compounds from citrus fruit; paints and dyes; carbide and various other similar substances; tanning materials; and chloride.

Other manufacturing processes, like Dead Sea minerals (potash and bromine), petroleum, benzine, and various fuels are on the military secret list and figures are not published.

#### New Drying Pans at Dead Sea

New potash drying-pans at the southern end of the Dead Sea, where Palestine Potash Ltd. has its Sodom works, are shortly to come into operation, according to the Tel Aviv Haarotz. The potash will be sacked and sent direct from the works, instead of being transported to the works at the northern shore of the Dead Sea in bulk for sacking.

#### 2. JEWISH COMPANIES TO EXPLORE OIL RESOURCES

Jerusalem, January 16.- The Palcor Agency reports that the Palestine Potash Company has organized the first large

oil exploration concern, in partnership with the local Jordan Valley Exploration Company, for the purpose of finding petroleum sources in Palestine.

Registered under the Palestine law a few months ago with an initial capital of \$1,000,000, the new company has a directorate consisting of Mr. M. Novomeysky and Mr. A. Citron, of Palestine Potash, and Mr. M. Pollak, of the "Nesher" Portland Cement Company. The Palestine Industrial Council, established by Palestine Potash, Nesher Co., and the Palestine Electric Corporation, is also studying the possibility of reducing the cost of fuel for electric power.

The problem of fuel also affects Palestine Potash Ltd. in view of the need to transport Dead Sea potash and other processed minerals from the works, 4,000 feet below Jerusalem, to the railway station at the capital.

### 3. PALESTINE MAKES ITS OWN NEWSPRINT

Tel Aviv, January 16.— For the first time in the history of the entire Middle East, newsprint is now being produced in Palestine. The Gvil Paper Factory, situated north of Tel Aviv expects that the output will reach forty tons monthly. Scrap paper is pulped down for processing in the mills in which modern machinery has been installed.



#### 4. 60,000 EMPLOYED IN JEWISH INDUSTRY

Tel Aviv, January 23.- 60,000 persons are at present employed in Jewish industry and craftsmanship in Jewish Palestine, of whom 50,000, both men and women, are in factories and industrial establishments, according to a report given to the annual meeting of the Palestine Manufacturers Association held in Tel Aviv during early December, 1944.

Output rose two and a half times over pre-war production. It was expected that Palestine industry could support both this number of workers and this rate of production after the war.

There were seventy-two factories employing 1,500 workers in the field of fashion goods and textiles and they had a turnover of £250,000 in "utility" (austerity-type) goods alone in 1944. Their requirements of raw materials totalled 250,000 meters, mostly made in Palestine.

Metal-ware and bakelite articles were another branch which had advanced considerably in recent years, and toy production had grown. Electrical equipment, chemical and pharmaceutical goods, cardboard, paper, writing materials, and various kinds of cosmetic products of high quality were among innovations. Good prospects loomed for the local fur industry which might, if properly fostered, preclude the famous Leipzig-Messe shows in Germany.

By-products industries, such as citrus juices, concentrates, jams, and essences, had come forward with great leaps and bounds. The diamond cutting and polishing industry employed thousands of hands.

It was reported that small and medium-sized textile plants had this year made 2,500,000 meters of various fabrics. The financial turnover for textiles was now £10,000,000.

##### 5. JEWISH PALESTINE FLEET IN FIVE YEARS PREDICTED

Tel Aviv, January 30.- Jewish Palestine will have its own mercantile fleet plying the oceans of the world by 1950, according to plans submitted to the Jewish Maritime League by Bar-Cochba Meerowitz, Director of the Jewish Agency's Maritime Department maintained by funds of the Keren Hayesod, Palestine Foundation Fund.

Mr. Meerowitz urged a strong Jewish shipping fleet, to take the place in the Mediterranean vacated by Italy, stating that 200,000 tons of vessels at a cost of £2,500,000 would be needed. A fleet of these proportions could employ 1,500 Jewish officers and sailors, with work for another 1,000 men in the ports. 45 per cent of Palestine's imports and more than 70 per cent of its exports were sea-borne, he pointed out.

The fishing industry could employ 1,500 families, of whom 500 men would be required for deep-sea trawlers, 500 in coastal fishing, and 500 in allied industries, such as boatbuilding,



net-making, and handling the catches when brought to shore. The establishment of seashore fishermen's villages and a central fishing port must be undertaken. He calculated the cost at £1,000,000, and proposed the creation of a national fishing corporation associating both public and private capital.

Tel Aviv should be converted into a deep-water port to serve the Jewish population in the southern part of Palestine. He estimated the cost of such conversion plus the construction of warehouses at £2,000,000.

#### 6. PALESTINE INDUSTRIAL EXPORTS TOTAL \$3,200,000

Tel Aviv, February.- Palestinian industrial goods valued at £800,000 were exported to Middle East territories, South Africa, and other countries during 1944, it was stated by the Foreign Trade Institute (set up by the Jewish Agency out of Keren Hayesod funds and by the Palestine Manufacturers Association) at a press conference here. The Institute maintains business relations with 600 importers and agents abroad.

#### H. POLITICAL ASPECTS

##### JEWISH AGENCY ANNOUNCES FOUR POINT POLITICAL PROGRAM

Jerusalem, January 16.- The gist of a four-point Zionist political program, known as the Jerusalem-Biltmore Resolution, was announced here by Moshe Shertok, political head of the Jewish Agency for Palestine.

The summary of the political program follows:

1. An immediate political decision which would determine Palestine as a Jewish State.
2. Immediate mass immigration aimed at solving the problem of all Jews saved from slaughter in Europe, at redeeming other Jews who have no solution but Palestine, and at creating in the shortest possible time a Jewish majority in Palestine.
3. The immediate transference of the control of immigration and of development projects on a country-wide scale to the Jewish Agency for Palestine, namely, immediately after a political decision is taken.
4. The plan does not lay down at the outset within what period of time the practical establishment of a Jewish State will be completed.

#### J. POPULATION

##### PALESTINE LABOR FEDERATION NUMBERS 141,500 MEMBERS

Tel Aviv, January 16.— The Histadruth Haovdim, Palestine Federation of Labor, now has a total membership of 141,500, an increase of 11,500 over last year's, according to figures just made public by that organization. The bulk of the new membership is composed of recent immigrants.



## K. POSTWAR PROJECTS

### 1. PLANS FOR JERUSALEM'S POSTWAR DEVELOPMENT REVEALED

Jerusalem, January 16.- Plans for the postwar development of Jerusalem, estimated to cost some \$10,000,000, were finally approved by the Jerusalem Municipal Council.

The postwar development scheme includes the building of a Town Hall, a central bus terminal, modern fire station, public markets, drainage, new roads, parks, and other public developments.

### 2. TIBERIAS DEVELOPMENT AIMS AT REPLACING GERMAN RESORTS

Tiberias, January 23.- The launching of plans for the development of the hot springs here, to replace the German resorts of Aachen and Wiesbaden, has been put on the priority list of Jewish Palestine's postwar projects, it was announced here. Plans for the development of Tiberias as one of the world's major health resorts were twice deferred, once by the Palestine disturbances of 1936, and later by World War II.

At present the Tiberias hot springs are visited by some 1,500 people daily during the season from November to April. This year, it is expected, the number will increase to nearly 2,000 daily. The construction of hotels and convalescent homes are among the plans.